

GREAT ANIMAL BOOKS AT THE PLEASANTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Compiled by the Pleasanton Library
Children's Staff



Books are shelved in
Children's Fiction
by author's last name
and/or
Children's Paperbacks
by first letter of author's last name
(unless otherwise noted).

Please ask at the Children's Desk
if you need help.

Realistic Animal Fiction

The Good Dog by Avi



Grades 4-7 (243 p)
McKinley, a malamute, is torn between the domestic world of his human family and the wild world of Lupin, a wolf that is trying to recruit dogs to replenish the dwindling wolf pack.

Pippa's First Summer by Catherine Badgley

Grades 4-6 (133 p)

The story of the amazing accomplishments and hurdles of a sister and brother bat during their first summer. It is based on the real lives of big brown bats.



National Velvet by Enid Bagnold

Grades 5-8 (258 p)

A fourteen-year-old English girl wins a horse in a raffle, trains it, and rides it in the Grand National steeplechase.

The Incredible Journey by Sheila Burnford

Grades 4-6 (145 p) *Audiobook available*

A Siamese cat, an old bull terrier, and a young Labrador retriever travel together 250 miles through the Canadian wilderness to find their family.

Socks by Beverly Cleary

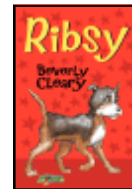
Grades 3-5 (156 p)

The happy home life of Socks, the cat, is disrupted by the addition of a new baby to the household.

Ribsy by Beverly Cleary

Grades 4-6 (192 p) *Audiobook available*

A series of adventures begins for a dog who gets separated from his owner, Henry Huggins, in a shopping center parking lot.



Strider by Beverly Cleary



Grades 4-7 (179 p) *Audiobook available*

Sequel to: Dear Mr. Henshaw

In a series of diary entries, Leigh tells how he comes to terms with his parents' divorce, acquires joint custody of an abandoned dog, and joins the track team at school.

The Cat Who Went to Heaven by Elizabeth Coatsworth

Grades 3– 6 (62 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

This is the story of a cat who came to the home of a poor Japanese artist and, by humility and devotion, brought him good fortune.

Love that Dog by Sharon Creech

Grades 5-7 (86 p) *Sequel: Hate that Cat*

A young student, who comes to love poetry through a personal understanding of what different poems mean to him, surprises himself by writing his own inspired poem.



Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo



Grades 4-6 (182 p) *Audiobook available*

Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.

Incident at Hawk's Hill by Allan W. Eckert

Grades 5-8 (173 p)

A shy, lonely six-year-old wanders into the Canadian prairie and spends a summer under the protection of a badger.

Ginger Pye by Eleanor Estes

Grades 4-6 (306 p) *Sequel: Pinky Pye*

When the Pye family's puppy, Ginger, disappears on Thanksgiving Day, the children are convinced that he has been abducted by a stranger in a yellow hat.



Old Yeller by Fred Gibson

Grades 6-9 (158 p) *Audiobook available*

A story set in the Texas hill country about a 14 year-old boy and the ugly stray dog he comes to love.

Misty of Chincoteague by Marguerite Henry

Grades 4-7 (173 p) *Chincoteague series*

The determination of two youngsters to win a Chincoteague pony is greatly increased when the Phantom and her colt are among those rounded up for the yearly auction.



Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

Grades 5-8 (292 p) *Audiobook available*

Roy, who is new to his small Florida community, becomes involved in another boy's attempt to save a colony of burrowing owls from a proposed construction site.



Animal House and Iz by Betty Hicks

Grades 4-6 (172 p)

Iz, formerly known as Elizabeth, has begun to enjoy the pandemonium of a spacey stepmother, mischievous stepbrothers, and an assortment of odd and unreliable pets.



Marley: A Dog Like No Other by John Grogan

Grades 5-8 (196 p)

A special adaptation of the author's book "Marley and Me" for younger readers, in which he shares the story of his gold retriever Marley, and tells of the love his family has for the dog.



Orwell's Luck by Richard Jennings

Grades 5-7 (146 p)

While caring for an injured rabbit which becomes her confidant, horoscope writer, and source of good luck, a thoughtful seventh grade girl learns to see things in more than one way.



Straydog by Kathe Koja

Grades 8-10 (105 p)

Rachel, a teenager with a healthy dose of both aptitude and attitude, begins to feel at home volunteering at an animal shelter until the arrival of a feral dog with whom she senses a special kinship.

Stranded by Ben Mikaelson

Grades 5-8 (247 p) *Audiobook available*

Twelve-year-old Koby, who has lost a foot in an accident, sees a chance to prove her self-reliance to her parents when she tries to rescue two stranded pilot whales near her home in the Florida Keys.



Gentle Ben by Walt Morey

Grades 5-7 (191 p)

This story traces the friendship between a boy and a bear in the rugged Alaskan Territory.



Popular Animal Series

Most are shelved in J Paperbacks by first letter of series title
(may also be shelved in J Fiction by author's last name)

All American Puppies by Susan Saunders

Grades 2-4

Animal Ark by Ben Baglio

Grades 3-6

Animal Emergency by Emily Costello

Grades 3-5

Barkley's School for Dogs by Marcia Thornton Jones

Grades 2-4

Freddy Collection by Walter R. Brooks

(J Fiction and Paperbacks "F") Grades 4-6

Guardians of Ga' Hoole by Kathryn Lasky

(J Paperbacks "L") Grades 3-5

Hank the Cowdog by John Erickson

Grades 2-4

Heartland by Lauren Brooke

Grades 5-8

Phantom Stallion by Terri Farley

Grades 4-7

Pony-Crazed Princess by Diana Kimpton

Grades 2-4

Pony Pals by Jeanne Betancourt

Grades 3-5

Redwall Collection by Brian Jacques

(J Fiction and Paperbacks "J") Grades 4-7

Saddle Club by Bonnie Bryant

Grades 5-8

Tales from the House of Bunnicle by James Howe

Grades 3-5

Thoroughbred by various authors

Grades 5-8

Vet Volunteers by Laurie Halse Anderson

Grades 5-8

Warriors Collection by Erin Hunter

(J Fiction and Paperbacks "W") Grades 4-7

Pleasanton Public Library
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Sunday: 1 p.m.- 5 p.m.



8/2009

Owls in the Family by Farley Mowat

Grades 4-7 (91 p)

A funny true story of a family who raises owls and some of their adventures.



Shiloh by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Grades 4-8 (144 p) *Audiobook available* — *Shiloh series*

When he finds a lost beagle in the hills behind his West Virginia home, Marty tries to hide it from his family and the dog’s real owner, a mean-spirited man that shoots deer out of season and mistreats his dogs.

Gift Horse: a Lakota Story by S. D. Nelson



Grades 3-6 *Shelved in Moving Up*

This is the story of a Lakota youth whose father gives him a horse in preparation for his making the transition from boyhood into manhood and becoming a Lakota Warrior.

The Leanin’ Dog by K.A. Nazum

Grades 5-8 (250 p) *Audiobook available*

In wintry Colorado during the 1930s, eleven-year-old Dessa Dean mourns the death of her beloved mother, but the arrival of an injured dog and the friendship they form is just what they need to change their lives forever.



Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

Grades 4-7 (281 p)

A horse in 19th century England recounts his experiences with both good and bad masters.

The White Giraffe by Lauren St. John

Grades 4-7 (180 p) *Audiobook available*

Sequels: Dolphin Song, The Last Leopard

After a fire kills her parents, eleven-year old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa, where she befriends a mythical white giraffe.

Rascal by Sterling North

Grades 6-8 (192 p) J599.7632 North *Audiobook available*

The author recalls his carefree life in a small Midwestern town at the close of World War I, and his adventures with his pet raccoon, Rascal.



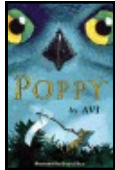
FANTASY ANIMAL FICTION

Poppy by Avi

Grades 4-6 (147 p) *Audiobook available*

Tales of Dimwood Forest series

Poppy the deer mouse urges her family to move next to a field of corn big enough to feed them all forever, but Mr. Ocax, a terrifying owl, has other ideas.



The World According to Humphrey by Betty G. Birney

Grades 3-5 (124 p) *Humphrey series*

Humphrey, pet hamster at Longfellow School, learns that he has an important role to play in helping his classmates and teacher.

Runaway Ralph by Beverly Cleary

Grades 3-5 (175 p) *Audiobook available*—*Ralph S. Mouse series*

Ralph runs away looking for freedom but winds up a prisoner at a summer camp.

The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo

Grades 4-6 (267 p) *Audiobook available*

This is the story of Despereaux Tilling, a small mouse of unusual talents, the princess that he loves, the servant girl who longs to be a princess, and a devious rat determined to bring them all to ruin.

I, Jack as told to Patricia Finney

Grades 4-6 (178 p) *Sequel: Jack and Rebel, The Police Dog*

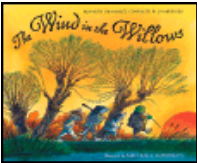


Jack, a Labrador Retriever, tells about his daily life of food, walks, and the "apedogs" and "funny-looking dogs" (cats) in his pack, as well as how everything changes when a pretty girl dog moves into the neighborhood. Includes explanatory footnotes written by the cats.

The Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame

Grades 4-6 (259 p) *Audiobook available*

The escapades of four animal friends who live along a river in the English countryside—toad, mole, rat, and badger are told in this classic tale.



The Puppy Sister by S. E. Hinton

Grades 3-5 (122 p)

A young boy is astonished when his new puppy begins to change into a human girl who says to him, "I love you, brother!"

The Last Cowboys by Harry Horse

Grades 3-5 (111 p)

In a series of letters to his grandson, an elderly gentleman relates how he and his remarkable little dog traveled to America on an expedition to the Wild West in an effort to find the dog’s grandfather, rumored to be living among cowboys following a successful movie career.



The Tygrine Cat by Inbali Iserles

Grades 5-7 (242 p)

Lost and alone, Mati seeks acceptance from a pack of feral cats at Cressida Lock, but in order to defeat the assassin on his trail, Mati must unlock the secret of his true identity and learn to harness an ancient and deadly feline power.



Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat by Lynne Jonell

Grades 4-6 (346 p)

When Emmy discovers that she and her formerly loving parents are being drugged by their evil nanny with rodent potions that can change people in frightening ways, she and some new friends must try everything possible to return things to normal.

Rabbit Hill by Robert Lawson

Grades 3-5 (127 p)

New folks are coming to live in the Big House. The animals of Rabbit Hill wonder if they will plant a garden and thus be good providers.



The Daring Adventures of Penhaligon Brush

by S. Jones Rogan

Grades 4-6 (230 p)

When Penhaligon Brush the fox is summoned by his step-brother to the seaside town of Porthleven, he finds immediately upon arrival that his brother is incarcerated in the dungeon at Ferball Manor

Martin’s Mice by Dick King-Smith

Grades 3-5 (122 p)

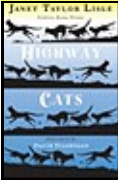
A farm cat who doesn’t want to catch mice keeps a family of them as pets in the barn; but then he is given away to a townswoman and acquires a new perspective.



Highway Cats by Janet Taylor Lisle

Grades 4-6 (118 p) *Audiobook available*

A hard-bitten group of mangy highway cats is changed forever after the mysterious arrival of three kittens.



Leaping Beauty: And Other Animal Fairy Tales



by Gregory Maguire

Grades 4-8 (197 p)

Eight beloved fairy tales are retold including:

Goldifox and the Three Chickens; Cinder-Elephant; and The Three Penguins and the Big Bad Walrus.

Silverwing by Kenneth Oppel

Grades 5-8 (216 p) *Audiobook available* — *Silverwing series*

When a newborn bat named Shade but sometimes called “Runt” becomes separated from his colony during migration, he grows in ways that prepare him for even greater journeys.

Gully’s Travels by Tor Seidler

Grades 4-7 (173 p)

After his master gives his dog Gulliver to the doorman, Gulliver forms a plan to escape his uncomfortable new life and find his true home.



The Cricket in Times Square by George Selden

Grades 3-6 (151 p) *Audiobook available*

Sequel: Tucker’s Countryside

The adventures of a country cricket who unintentionally arrives in New York and is befriended by Tucker Mouse and Harry Cat.



Charlotte’s Web by E.B. White

Grades 3-5 (184 p) *Audiobook available*

Wilbur, the pig, is desolate when he discovers that he is destined to be the farmer's Christmas dinner until his spider friend, Charlotte, decides to help him.

The Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White

Grades 3-6 (210 p) *Audiobook available*

Knowing how to read and write is not enough for Louis, a voiceless Trumpeter swan. His determination to learn to play a stolen trumpet takes him far from his wilderness home.



FOR YOUNGER READERS

The Cat Who Got Carried Away by Allan Ahlberg

Grades 2-4 (79 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

It is an exciting couple of days for the Gaskitt family and their community — with missing pets, an unusual substitute teacher, and a special addition to their household.

Tornado by Betsy Byars

Grades 2-4 (49 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

As they wait out a tornado in their storm cellar, a family listens to their farmhand tell stories about the dog that was blown into his life by another tornado when he was a boy.



Cork and Fuzz by Dori Chaconas

Grades 1-3 (32 p) *JE Chaconas*

Cork and Fuzz series

A possum and a muskrat become friends despite their many differences.



Snake and Lizard by Joy Cowley

Grades 2-4 (63 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Join Snake and Lizard as they learn to appreciate their differences as they become friends.

Wombat and Fox: Tales of the City

by Terry Denton

Grades 2-4 (124 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Wombat and Fox have many adventures in the city with their friends.



The Nine Lives of Aristotle by Dick King-Smith



Grades 2-3 (75 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Aristotle, a little white kitten, goes to live with a witch in an old cottage, where he finds so many opportunities for risky adventures that he soon has only one life left.

Rats on the Roof by James Marshall

Grades 3-4 (79 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Seven stories about various animals, including a frog with magnificent legs, a hungry brontosaurus, and a mouse who gets married are included in this illustrated collection.

No More Animals

by Lucia Monfried and Betsy James

Grades 3-4 (64 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Charlie has some unusual pets, but when he adds a skink to his collection his mother thinks he’s gone too far.



On the Road by Lucy Nolan



Grades 2-4 (54 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Down Girl and Sit series

A dog who thinks her name is Down Girl goes on a car ride to the beach, goes camping in the woods, and reluctantly pays a visit to the vet with her master, Ruff.

Sly the Sleuth and the Pet Mysteries

by Donna Jo Napoli and Robert Furrow

Grades 2-3 (92 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Sly the Sleuth, also known as Sylvia, solves three mysteries for her friends and neighbors, all involving pets, through her detective agency, Sleuth for Hire.



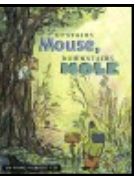
Catwings by Ursula K. Le Guin

Grades 2-4 (39 p) *Shelved in Moving Up*

Audiobook available — *Catwings series*

Four young cats with wings leave the city slums in search of a safe place to live, finally meeting two kind-hearted children

Upstairs Mouse, Downstairs Mole by Wong Herbert Yee



Grades 1-3 *Shelved in Moving Up*

Mouse and Mole series

Mouse and his downstairs neighbor, Mole, discover that when they help each other, housecleaning and other daily tasks are much easier.

Runaway Radish by Jessie Haas

Grades 2-4 *Shelved in Moving Up*

When Radish the pony grows too big for the girls who own him, he goes to live at a horse camp where there are always new children for him to train.

